FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 DECEMBER 1986

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio announced that "scores" of Iraqi aircraft raided the Tehran area 13 December, destroying an electric power station and an anti-aircraft missile system. Other Iraqi planes raided Iranian military camps in Marivan and other areas of Kordestan, according to the communique. IRNA acknowledged that a power station on the outskirts of Tehran was damaged in a raid by an Iraqi plane, and a military communique cited by the agency stated that a number of civilians were wounded in an attack on Marivan. Iraqi planes also struck at the Dehloran telecommunications station in raids 12 and 14 December, according to Iraqi communiques carried by Voice of the Masses.

As for Iranian air activity, a communique cited by IRNA announced that Iranian planes damaged an Iraqi air base north of Baghdad 12 December. An Iraqi spokesman cited by INA claimed that an Iranian F-4 was downed in the Basra sector 14 December.

In the Gulf, naval units of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) fired two missiles at Iraq's Al-Bakr jetty 14 December, according to IRNA, which cited IRGC claims that the attacks destroyed five Iraqi gunboats and demolished radar systems. The agency also asserted that IRGC artillery fire sank an Iraqi missile boat in the Khawr 'Abdallah channel 13 December and that an IRGC missile unit destroyed one of Iraq's largest frigates in the channel the previous day. However, an Iraqi military source cited by INA denied the loss of a frigate.

The Iranian Navy commander commented on the naval war during an interview broadcast by Tehran radio 14 December, asserting that Iran has "totally cut off" Iraq's access to the Gulf through the Khawr 'Abdallah. Regarding maneuvers in the Gulf by outside powers on the "pretext" of protecting their own interests, he said the Iranian Navy will "pay no attention" to this "show of strength" by those with "arrogant objectives." In related remarks, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani stated during a visit to Bandar-e 'Abbas that the recent British-Omani maneuvers in the Omar. Sea were a "futile" effort of "global arrogance" to resume its presence in the area, according to IRNA. The Majlis speaker is attending "large-scale" Iranian naval maneuvers which began in the Strait of Hormuz 14 December, the agency noted.

In another development in the Gulf, Iraqi planes hit a large maritime target off the Iranian coast 14 December, accordingto a spokesman cited by INA.

Iran

Prosecutions — In a letter to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni broadcast by Tehran radio 15 December, Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri urged Khomeyni to order that investigations into the charges against Mehdi Hashemi and his group be pursued "remorselessly and with utmost care in accordance with Islamic justice, whatever the cost." Montazeri stressed that his own relationship with Hashemi should not prevent the investigation because "the sanctity of Islam and prevention of deviations" take priority over everything.

Intelligence Minister Mohammad Reyshahri had outlined the case against Mehdi Hashemi in a 14 December press conference reported by Tehran radio and IRNA. Hashemi and his group face a number of charges including murder, kidnapping, collaboration with SAVAK, possessing explosives, and seeking to contaminate the clergy with "deviationist" ideologies. Two Majlis deputies and forty other people have been arrested in connection with the Hashemi group, Reyshahri disclosed. He denied any connection between Hashemi's arrest and Robert McFarlane's visit to Tehran, asserting that this rumor was raised by Hashemi's colleagues and that "its mention is in line with the propaganda campaign against the Intelligence Ministry."

Reyshahri also referred to the charges facing a number of other Iranians and foreign nationals currently detained in Iran. He described arrested Briton Roger Cooper as "one of Britain's biggest spies" and said more will be revealed about the case in an upcoming broadcast of an interview with Cooper. Reyshahri revealed that a Canadian citizen was arrested in May on charges of photographing Iranian military centers and that another Briton who was recently arrested in southeastern Iran is accused of carrying unauthorized arms and of attempting to sow discord among Shi'ite and Sunni Muslims. A former Iranian ambassador to the USSR faces charges of having links with East Bloc countries, he noted.

Iran-USSR Protocol — The Iranian-Soviet economic protocol includes cooperation in trade, banking, transport, steel mills, power generation, fisheries, and building, IRNA disclosed in a 12 December report. In an interview cited by the agency, the finance and economic affairs minister said that Soviet experts will resume work at several power stations in Iran and he noted that the USSR has agreed in principle to Iranian proposals on the establishment of a joint shipping line in the Caspian, the passage of Iranian trucks and ships through Soviet territory and waters, and the resumption of flights between Tehran and Moscow.

Majlis Speaker on Superpowers — In remarks cited by IRNA, Hashemi-Rafsanjani warned that Iranians must "not be deceived" by the "apparent kindness" of both superpowers toward their country, stressing that "behind these smiles rest hearts filled with animosity, greed, and hostility toward the Islamic Revolution."

Lebanon

Reporting on the situation in Maghdushah 14 December, Radio Monte Carlo said that while some 200 fighters of the PNSF had withdrawn from the area, approximately 250 Fatah men were remaining in the town. Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri warned the Palestinians in remarks cited by Beirut radio that Amal will give them "one last chance" in order to facilitate implementation of the Iranian initiative. Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam had acknowledged the "problems" besetting his plan in a 13 December statement broadcast by Tehran radio, calling on both Amal and Palestinians to observe a full cease-fire. However, fighting continued in Beirut over the weekend, with Beirut radio citing reports that 22 people were killed and 70 wounded 13 December. Baghdad Voice of PLO radio said the Palestinians repulsed repeated Amal attacks on Shatila that day and claimed that Syrian tanks subjected the camp to an intense and indiscriminate bombardment 14 December.

The Arab League meeting on the camps war scheduled for 15 December has been postponed "for a few days" in order to allow member-states time to hold further consultations, APS announced in a report from Tunis. In another diplomatic development, DFLP leader Nayif Hawatimah arrived in Tripoli to ask Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to intervene personally to stop Amal's "genocidal war" against the Palestinians, JANA reported.

Egypt

Mubarak Tour — President Husni Mubarak expressed "concern" about the U.S. arms deal with Iran during a 13 December meeting with FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl in Stuttgart, DPA reported. Kohl promised FRG support for Egypt's fight with the IMF, the agency said. Mubarak subsequently held talks with Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu in Bucharest, MENA reported, noting that they discussed bilateral economic cooperation and the Middle East problem. The two presidents issued a joint communique in which they stressed the need to form a preparatory committee for an international conference on the Middle East, the agency said. Before returning to Cairo, Mubarak held brief talks with the Greek prime minister in Athens and with the Italian prime minister in Milan, according to Cairo radio and MENA.

Fundamentalists — Security police in Alexandria recently arrested four students involved in the publication and distribution of a new magazine issued by an extremist religious organization, Cairo's *Al-Jumhuriyah* reported 11 December.

Jordan

King Husayn urged Arab leaders to rise above their differences and immediately respond to the call to hold an Arab summit as soon as possible in order to agree on joint action to confront outside challenges and solve outstanding problems. Addressing newly graduated officers in a 13 December speech broadcast by Amman radio, he also warned that the Arab "system" is in danger of "collapse."

The king met with visiting U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy the same day, Amman television reported, noting that their talks focused on latest developments in the Middle East. Kennedy's opposition to the sale of U.S. arms to Jordan was sharply criticized by the Amman paper *Al-Dustur*, which viewed the senator's statements on the issue with "astonishment."

Israel

In a statement cited by *The Jerusalem Post* 14 December, leading Palestinian Arab figures, including well-known supporters of the PLO, condemned the 12 December knife attack on an elderly orthodox Jew as contrary to the "civilized context" of the Palestinian struggle. In a separate incident, Janin educator Zahran Hassuna, a "pro-Israeli figure," received several stab wounds during an attack near his home, Jerusalem television reported 14 December.

Libya

Talks in USSR — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Foreign Liaison Secretary Kamil Hasan Mansur began talks in Moscow 15 December, TASS reported.

Action in Chad — According to a communique broadcast 13 December by Ndjamena radio, "fierce fighting" was occurring in the Tibesti region where Chadian forces shot down a Libyan bomber 12 December. A previous communique noted that 45 Libyans were killed and 3 cargo planes destroyed in combat 11 December.

Afghanistan

Reporting on CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev's talks with PDPA General Secretary Najibullah 12 December, TASS said the two sides agreed that there are at present "real ways" toward a "speedy and cardinal normalization" of the situation around Afghanistan that would create conditions for the withdrawal of Soviet troops. At a banquet in honor of the DRA leader, Gorbachev stressed that Soviet troops can be withdrawn from the DRA as soon as a "just settlement" of the Afghan situation is achieved, according to TASS. However, he added that if the United States wants a settlement it must start "scaling down the interference" in Afghanistan's internal affairs. Moscow radio reported Najibullah's remarks at the banquet in which he reaffirmed the DRA's intention to establish a "national unity" government that would include representatives of forces which are currently abroad but which are prepared to contribute to the "historic renovation" of life in Afghanistan. The radio noted that Najibullah visited Tashkent the following day, and Kabul radio announced his return to the DRA 14 December. Among recent reports on the military situation, AFP cited an Afghan resistance news agency account of an 8 December Soviet air raid on Qandahar in which 67 people reportedly died and 150 were injured. According to the agency, Qandahar radio admitted that Soviet pilots had bombed civilian areas "by mistake."

Pakistan

Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo and Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Larijani discussed possibili-

ties for cooperation in resolving the Afghan problem, IRNA reported 14 December.

A curfew was imposed on the Karachi suburbs where at least 54 people were killed and 310 wounded when angry Pathans from the Sohrab Goth area attacked Bihari residents of Orangi 14 December, KYODO reported. A Karachi administration press note announced a police crackdown on illegal arms, narcotics, and explosives in both ethnic areas, Karachi radio said 12 December

OPEC

Talks in Geneva "bogged down" 14 December over the issue of production quotas, "well-placed Arab sources" told KUNA, noting the "apparently irreconcilable difference" between Iran and Iraq on quotas for Iraq. Meanwhile, all conference delegates agreed on the need to raise the benchmark price of oil to $18 a barrel, OPECNA reported 13 December.

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Najibullah Heads Delegation to Soviet Union

LD111509 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 11 Dec 86

[Excerpts] General Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee Comrade Najib left by air this afternoon for the Soviet Union at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, as head of a high-ranking party and state delegation, for an official, friendly visit. [passage omitted]

The airplane carrying Comrade Najib and his delegation left Kabul International Airport around 1530 for the Soviet Union.

BIA reports that those accompanying Comrade Najib on this visit include Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers; Nur Ahmad Nur, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; Saleh Mohammad Ziray, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; Brigadier General Mohammad Rafi, member of the Politburo and DRA defense minister; Gholam Faruq Yaqubi, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of state security; Lt Gen Sayyed Mohammad Golabzoy, candidate member of the Politburo and DRA interior minister; and Abdol Wakil, member of the PDPA Central Committee and DRA minister of foreign affairs.

Further Reportage on Visit

For coverage of the visit to the Soviet Union by PDPA Central Committee General Secretary Najibullah, see the South Asia section of the 15 December Soviet Union *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Najibullah Greets Lao Party Secretary General

BK131259 Vientiane KPL in English 1023 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] Vientiane, December 8 (KPL) — Kaysone Phomviham, general secretary of the LPRP CC, has received a message of greetings from Najibullah, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee.

The message wrote: "On behalf of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, all party members and the revolutionary and peace-loving people of Afghanistan, I would like to express my warmest friendly congratulations and best wishes to you on the occasion of your reelection as general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party.

"I can say with full satisfaction that the friendly relations between the PDPA and the LPRP based on fraternal solidarity has been strengthened and developed with each passing day, for common interests of our peoples and for peace and security in Asia and in the world as a whole. The party and people of Afghanistan highly value your noble role in fulfilling these important and just tasks.

"On this occasion, I would like once again to express my satisfaction over the efforts of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the Lao PDR in the defence of peace and the maintenance of understanding and cooperation in South East Asia.

"I wish you still greater successes in the implementation of the 4th party congress's resolution. [no closing quotation marks as received]

PRC Official Geng Biao Continues Visit

Meets National Assembly Speaker

BK121236 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 12 Dec 86

[Text] The visiting Chinese parliamentary delegation led by the vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, Mr Geng Biao, called on the speaker of the National Assembly, Mr Hamid Nasir Chatha, in Islamabad today. The speaker briefed the delegation about the parliamentary history of Pakistan and said that the advent of the democratic era following the general elections last year (?had led in the) emergence of truly representative institution in the country. The leader of the delegation, Mr Geng Biao, who had been ambassador of China to Pakistan in late 50's, remarked that it was just like being in his own country while in Pakistan. He said Pakistan had made tremendous progress in various fields for overall betterment of the people.

Reaffirms Support at Banquet

BK130457 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] China has reaffirmed its continued support to Pakistan in its just struggle to safeguard its national independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. The reaffirmation was made by Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress Geng Biao at a banquet hosted by the National Assembly Speaker Hamid Nasir Chatha in honor of the Chinese National People's Congress delegation in Islamabad last night. Geng Biao said we support Pakistan in its endeavors to promote peace and stability in the entire world, especially in South Asia. He said Pakistan has made positive contributions to strengthening unity among Third World countries and to the promotion of peace, stability, and development in South Asia. Pakistan has been pursuing the policy of peace and nonalignment in international affairs and is making unremitting efforts for a political settlement of the Afghanistan problem.

About Pakistan-China relations, Geng Biao said the two countries have always respected and supported each other and conducted sincere mutual cooperation over the past 30 or more years. He added that the Chinese Government has been consistently pursuing a policy of strengthening bilateral friendly cooperation and he hopes that the Pakistan-China friendship, based on strong foundations, will grow stronger in the years to come.

Earlier, Hamid Nasir Chatha in a speech said that we have always considered China an exemplary neighbor, protector of security, and a source of confidence and strength for us. The people of Pakistan are grateful to China for its moral and material support and cooperation in various fields. The Pakistan-China friendly relations, which are based on principles of equality, noninterference in each other's affairs, and on almost identical views on all international issues, have stood every test of time and have grown stronger with the passage of time. The banquet was attended by, among others, Senate Chairman Ghulam Ishaq Khan and federal ministers — Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, Dr Mahbubul Haq, and Ghulam Mohammad Ahmed Khan Manika.

Received by Foreign Minister

BK131629 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] The Chinese parliamentary delegation, led by National People's Congress Vice Chairman Geng Biao, called on Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan in Islamabad today. Speaking to the delegation, the foreign minister reiterated that Pakistan has pledged to make efforts to establish peace at regional and global leves. He said Pakistan and China have similar objectives and they have deep feelings of friendship and cooperation toward each other.

Geng Biao said Pakisan and China have always been good friends and their friendship will become stronger and stronger as time passes.

The delegation visited a heavy riddle [preceding word in English] factory in Taxila today.

Awarded by Ziaul Haq 14 Dec

BK140939 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 14 Dec 86

[Text] The Chinese parliamentary delegation led by Vice Chairman of the National People's Congress Standing Committee Geng Biaocalled on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi yesterday and discussed with him matters of mutual interest, including Pakistan-China relations. National Assembly Speaker Hamid Nasir Chatha and the Chinese ambassador to Pakistan were also present on the occasion.

The president later honored Geng Biao with Pakistan's award of Hilal-I-Pakistan in recognition of the services he has rendered for further promoting and consolidating relations between Pakistan and China. The investiture ceremony was attended by the National Assembly speaker, federal ministers, and senior officials.

Meets Prime Minister Junejo

BK141149 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 14 Dec 86

[Text] The vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress, Mr Geng Biao, called on the prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, in Rawalpindi today. The prime minister thanked the Chinese Government for the continued support to Pakistan which is greatly valued and fully appreciated by the people and the Government of Pakistan. He also expressed his gratitude to the Chinese leader for his categorical statement of support for Pakistan's just position on the Afghanistan and other important issues. The prime minister said Pakistan sincerely wants to reach a peaceful and honorable political solution of the problem so that more than 3 million Afghan refugees could return to their homes with honor and

dignity. The prime minister recalled his visit to China last year which, he said, was symbolic of the fraternal relations between the two countries.

The vice chairmam of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress told the prime minister that China has always stood by Pakistan and reassured his country's full support in future as well. He lauded the principled stand taken by Pakistan on the Afghanistan problem and said it is based on just international principles. He also commended the people and the Government of Pakistan in providing shelter and subsistence to such a large number of Afghan refugees which, he said, was a noble humanitarian gesture.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives
BK141002 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 14 Dec 86

[Text] Iranian Deputy Foriegn Minister Javad Larijani arrived in Islamabad yesterday evening to begin a 4-day visit to Pakistan. During his stay in Islamabad he will hold talks with Pakistani officials.

Conveys Greetings to Junejo
BK141646 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 14 Dec 86

[Text] The visiting Iranian deputy foreign minister, Mr Javad Larijani, called on the prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, in Rawalpindi today and conveyed to him the greetings and good wishes of the Iranian prime minister, Mr Hoseyn Musavi. Dr Javad Larijani also informed the prime minister of the fruitful discussions he had in Pakistan.

Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo reciprocating the sentiments expressed in the message said it is reflective of the brotherly relations between the two countries.

Confers With Yaqub Khan
BK150435 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 15 Dec 86

[Text] Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Dr Javad Larijani called on Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan in Islamabad yesterday and discussed with him matters of mutual interest. He also held official-level talks in the Foreign Office.

IRNA Reports on Talks
LD141823 Tehran IRNA in English 1759 GMT 14 Dec 86

[Text] Islamabad, Dec 14, IRNA — Visiting Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Larijani confered with Pakistani Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo on mutual Tehran-Islamabad relations as well as the issue of Afghanistan here Sunday. During the meeting, Larijani said that any solution to the Afghanistan issue depends on the formation of an independent, non-aligned, and popular government in Kabul which can establish friendly relations with its neighboring countries. Such a government should also be fully supported by the Afghan Muslim people, he added.

Larijani also outlined the grounds for Tehran-Islamabad cooperation in solving the Afghanistan issue. He aslo extended an invitation to the Pakistani prime minister from his Iranian counterpart Hoseyn Musavi to pay a visit to Tehran. In return, Junejo extended an invitation to Musavi to pay a visit here.

Junejo also reiterated that the Afghanistan issue will not be solved unless the Islamic Republic contributes to the issue. He said that it is essential that Tehran and Islamabad continue cooperating in finding a solution to the Afghanistan issue.

Larijani also met with Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan here Sunday afternoon where the two discussed the issue of Afghanistan. Yaqub Khan also briefed Larijani on the outcome of a visit by the Pakistani deputy foreign minister to the Soviet Union. The two also exchanged views on issues which might jeopardize the success of the forthcoming meeting of the Islamic Conference Organization in Kuwait.

The Iranian deputy foreign minister who is in charge of international and economic affairs arrived here Saturday at the head of a political delegation.

Junejo: Nation Capable of Defending Itself
BK121600 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 12 Dec 86

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo has expressed the hope that there will not be any foreign aggression against Pakistan and if there should be any aggression, the country is fully capable of defending itself. He said this while speaking to the newsmen at the airport on his return from Rawalpindi to Lahore this evening.

In reply to a question on the border situation, the prime minister recalled his recent talks with the Indian prime minister in Bangalore and said that Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had expressed the desire to improve relations with Pakistan. Prime Minister Junejo said that Pakistan has always been desirous of establishing good relations with India and other neighbors. He expressed the hope that the relations between the two countries will improve.

Among others who received the prime minister at the airport are Punjab Governor Makhdum Mohamad Sajjad Hussain Qureshi, Chief Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, federal and provincial ministers, and senior officials.

Curfew Imposed on Karachi Areas After Violence
BK141122 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 14 Dec 86

[Text] Curfew has been imposed in the Orangi, Orangi extension, and Mangu Pir police station areas of Karachi with immediate effect. According to official sources, the curfew has been imposed

in view of the tension prevailing in the area following some incidents of violence this morning.

In Sohrab Goth area, house-to-house search for illegal arms and narcotics continues. The curfew was relaxed in the area for 2 hours from 1300 today.

40 Killed, 156 Injured in Violence
BK141722 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1700 GMT 14 Dec 86

[Excerpt] A press note issued by the Karachi administration tonight says the house-to-house search operation continued in Sohrab Goth for the 3d day today and law enforcement agencies seized a large quantity of illegal arms, ammunition, and narcotics. The search will continue until all hidden arms and narcotics are recovered. The corps commander visited the area along with members of all law enforcement agencies.

The press note adds that miscreants opposing this operation, who had the backing of those involved in illegal arms and narcotics trading, attacked the Aligarh colony and its adjoining areas at about 1030 this morning. As a result of this attack, 40 people were killed. The dead also include five persons who were killed when a bomb exploded in a house. Some 156 people were injured. [passage omitted]

KYODO: Death Toll 'More Than 50'
OW150009 Tokyo KYODO in English 0007 GMT 15 Dec 86

[Text] Islamabad, Dec 15 KYODO — Angered by a government crackdown on illegal arms and narcotics, Pathans went on a rampage Sunday killing more than 50 people in Karachi. Police said the main victims were Bihari migrants who have frequently clashed with the Pathans in ethnic disputes. They said the bloody violence claimed at least 54 lives, including those of many women and children. In addition, 310 others were injured.

The karachi administration said Sunday night that in one assault a group backed by drug traffickers attacked Bihari residents in the city's Orangi area and killed 40 people. Authorities imposed a curfew on the 15-kilometer area and troops dispatched to maintain law and order were told to shoot any violaters.

The mass killing Sunday morning followed a raid by security forces Friday on narcotics smugglers in Karachi's Sohrab Goth area, which dominated by Pathans from the Northwest Frontier Province (NWFP) and their Afghan kin refugees. The security forces confiscated drugs and arms. In a similar raid conducted at the same time in the neighboring Orangi township where the Biharis live, authorities seized firearms and explosives. Pathan and Bihari migrants have often clashed in ethnic riots. Some 40 people were killed in the city last month.

Residents of the Orangi township said in a telephone interview Sunday that the assailants had dragged out women and children before setting houses on fire. They also said that some people fell victim to indiscriminate police fire aimed at halting the carnage.

Sind Minister Condemns Incidents
BK150251 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 15 Dec 86

[Text] Sind Chief Minister Syed Ghaus Ali Shah has condemned the violent incidents that took place in Karachi yesterday and said that the government will deal sternly with and crush the antisocial and antinational elements. In a statement in Karachi last night, he expressed his condolences over the deaths of innocent citizens as a result of indiscriminate firing by an infamous and irresponsible group of people. He warned that the people involved in such abominable and antinational activities will be dealt with with a heavy hand.

The Sind chief minister said these few people took the law into their hands only because the government launched a search operation in Sohrab Goth area. The operation, launched with good intentions and in the national interest, resulted in the seizure of a large quantity of narcotics during the past 3 days, which clearly indicates that these people harbor nefarious designs not only against their countrymen but against the country itself. They will not be allowed to cause troubles to the people by smuggling into and stockpiling such deadly narcotics in the province, the chief minister added. He assured the people that the government will do everything possible to eradicate this menace from the province. The chief minister expressed sympathy with the families of those killed and prayed for the early recovery of those injured.

According to a Karachi administration notification, curfew has been clamped with immediate effect on Liaqatabad, Nazimabad, Gul Bahar, Pak Colony, and (Said) people station areas, and the north Nazimabad police station area — that is from Banaras Chowk to Abdullah College and Paharganj to Nusrat Bhutto Colony — and Qaidabad and Landhi areas. The curfew, which will remain in force until further orders, has been imposed in the areas other than those where it came into effect yesterday afternoon.

The district magistrate, Hyderabad, has announced that Hyderabad City and Latifabad have been under curfew since 2230 last night. The curfew will remain in force until further orders.

A government press note issued last night says that 40 persons were killed in the incidents which took place yesterday. The dead also include those persons who were killed when a bomb exploded in a house. Some 156 people were injured.

Curfew Imposed on Additional Areas
BK151114 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 15 Dec 86

[Text] An official announcement in Karachi says curfew has been imposed with immediate effect till further notice in Pir Ilahi Bakhsh colony, Sabzi Mandi and Shah Faisal colony. This follows some incidents of violence in the area.

1 Killed, 7 Injured in Quetta Explosion
BK131530 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] In an explosion in Quetta today one person was killed and seven were injured. This explosion damaged a room of the General Post Office. A press note of the district magistrate says that an inquiry is underway.

Further Reportage on Visit by USSR's Katushev

Transport Minister, Katushev Meet

LD121736 Tehran IRNA in English 1625 GMT 12 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 12, IRNA — Visiting Soviet Chairman of the State Committee for Economic Relations Konstantin Katushev met and conferred with Iranian Minister of Roads and Transport Mohammad Seyyed Kya, here Thursday afternoon.

Iranian minister Seyyed Kya said at the meeting that Iranian goods transported through Soviet territory had declined in recent years. He called on the Soviets to assist Iran in setting up a joint shipping company in the Caspian Sea area, and noted that the Islamic Republic is willing to increase the volume of overland transport of Iranian goods via the USSR.

Seyyed Kya also informed the visiting Soviet official that Iran wanted balanced transport relations between the two countries. He also called on the Soviets to respect and facilitate Iranian shipping rights in the Caspian Sea as well as Iranian trucks ferrying goods through the Soviet Union.

According to the report the two sides hoped that in the next session of the joint transport commission, due to be held soon in Tehran, all contentious issues as well as matters of mutual interest would be discussed.

The Soviet official arrived here on Dec 8 at the head of a delegation.

Iravani Terms Talks 'Successful'

LD121733 Tehran IRNA in English 1712 GMT 12 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 12, IRNA — Iran and the Soviet Union signed an important economic protocol at the conclusion of the tenth session of their joint economic commission here Thursday. The protocol includes Tehran-Moscow cooperation in the fields of trade, banking, transportation, steel mill, construction of power generators, fisheries, house building, as well as other technical and industrial cooperation. Visiting Soviet Chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations Konstantin Katushev and the Iranian Finance and Economic Affairs Minister Mohammad-Javad Iravani signed the protocol on behalf of the two countries.

During his four-day visit here, Mr Katushev and his accompanying delegation discussed expansion of Tehran-Moscow political and economic relations with President Khamene'i, Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, Prime Minister Musavi as well as a number of ministers.

Speaking before the signing of the protocol, Finance Minister Iravani said that the Irano-Soviet joint commission meetings had been suspended for six years. He said delegations from the Soviet Union had visited Iran over the past six months and held preliminary talks with Iranian officials in the fields of fisheries trade as well as bilateral financial issues. He said talks culminated in the signing of the protocol in the tenth session of the joint commission, Iravani said.

In reply, Mr Katushev said that all existing economic issues between the two countries were discussed in the session. He also stressed on his country's policy of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries as well as its doctrine of good neighborliness. Katushev noted that the outcome of his meetings with senior Iranian officials was positive and expressed hope that such meetings would help eliminate misunderstandings in the twocountries' bilateral political and economic ties.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister Iravani told IRNA here on the same day that the Tehran-Moscow talks were successful and expressed hope that bilateral economic relations would expand and existing problems would be solved.

Naval Maneuvers Conducted in Hormuz Strait

LD141529 Tehran IRNA in English 1526 GMT 14 Dec 86

[Text] Bandar-e 'Abbas, Hormozgan Prov., Dec 14, IRNA — Large-scale naval maneuvers codenamed 'Zolfaqar' started in the Strait of Hormuz Sunday with scores of warships, hovercrafts, helicopters, as well as fighter planes. Zolfaqar was a double-bladed sword used by Imam 'Ali (A.S.), as the first imam of Muslims.

Majlis Speaker and Imam Khomeyni's representative to the Supreme Defense Council Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Chief of Staff Colonel Esmail Sohrabi, and Navy Commander Captain Mohammad Hoseyn Malekzadegan are attending the maneuvers.

Iranian Muslim combatants are conducting the simulated exercises aimed at coordinating their military response to air, surface, and submarine targets. They will also stage mock amphibious landings on enemy shores under cover of live missile and artillery fire. Mock dogfights to test Iranian air and naval response time and coordination as well as air to ground bombardment will also feature prominently in the war games. Preparations for the maneuvers which include passing through defused mine channels and submarine defense at the country's ports and jetties started three days ago.

Majlis Speaker Addresses Forces

LD131227 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Report by Central News Unit correspondent from Bandar-e 'Abbas — recorded]

[Text] This morning a parade by the joint security and military forces of Hormozgan Province was staged at the base of the Persian Gulf and Sea of Oman fleet in the presence of the representative of Imam Khomeyni on the Supreme Defense Council. In this ceremony, attended by the imam's representative; the Friday prayer leader of Bandar-e 'Abbas; members of the clergy; the chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic; the commander of the Navy of the Islamic Republic; the supervisor of the state headquarters for war publicity; a number of Majlis deputies; the governor of Hormozgan; and commanders of armed forces based in the region, Com-

mander of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Captain Malekzadegan made some remarks in connection with the sacrifices of the combatants of Islam and the victories of the monotheist combatants at war with the godless Ba'thists.

Next, Supreme Defense Council Representative Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, while describing the strong position of the combatants of Islam and of the Muslim nation on the battlefronts of justice against injustice, termed the presence of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic on the fronts a powerful one, adding that the purpose of this presence is to tell our enemies once again to stop being brash and to not bite off more than they can chew. We are telling our enemies: God willing and through the efforts of the combatants, we shall reach the day when we shall liberate the whole area from your evil, the day when we shall bring this war to a victorious end; then it will be Israel's turn, since it is one of the sources of corruption in the region.

The imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council then referred to the sensitive role of the Armed Forces in advancing the goals of the Islamic Revolution, saying: The guardians of our territory and borders are serving with awareness to bring welfare and tranquility to the nation; we have sensed this with our whole being during these years of war.

He also considered the presence of various strata of the population who have volunteered to go to the battlefronts as one of the most important causes for the continuous victories of the army of Islam and referred to the sincere ties between the leaders, the commanders-in-chief of the Armed Forces, the cultural bodies, the people, and the Armed Forces in standing solidly and victoriously against the evil powers of the world. Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that the misery that has befallen the arch-Satan and other enemies of Islam is a prominent outcome of the united presence of the devoted forces of the Islamic Revolution — a presence that has made the United States and others humbly beg for the establishment of relations with the Islamic Republic.

Mr Rafsanjani then noted the situation in the Strait of Hormuz and the powerful defense by those who maintain the security of this strait. Addressing the Armed Forces, he said: You have maintained the security of the Hormuz Strait and other vital arteries and this shows your strength, which has compelled the Black House to hope for securing our pity in order to establish relations. Today, you the Armed Forces have the honor of being deployed in a sensitive juncture. We expect that the final page of victory will be added to the many victories secured by the Islamic Republic of Iran thanks to your efforts!

Mr Rafsanjani condemned the presence of British forces in the joint maneuvers in the Sea of Oman and added: These moves have emerged following the disgrace of the U.S. rulers, who, along with their agents, are terrified in the face of the power and victory of the combatants in Islam.

After the ceremony the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council inspected various sections of the industries affiliated with the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran and expressed appreciation for the efforts being made by the experts and officials in charge of these industries to achieve self-sufficiency.

Terms UK-Oman Maneuvers 'Futile'

LD131511 Tehran IRNA in English 1450 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] Bandar-e 'Abbas, Hormozgan Prov., Dec 13, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani condemned on Saturday the recently concluded Britain-Oman maneuvers in the Oman Sea and described it as a "futile" effort of the global arrogance to resume its presence in the region. Speaking at a joint flag hoisting ceremony of the Iranian Armed Forces here, the speaker also warned foreign powers to keep away from the region. Because, he said, outside powers' presence in the region would no longer be tolerated. Rafsanjani vowed that the Islamic Republic of Iran will eventually rid the whole region of foreign powers.

The speaker furthermore said that the differences among U.S. leaders as well as their helpnessness following the U.S. President's former Security Adviser Robert McFarlane's clandestine visit to Tehran are a direct result of the power and awareness of the Islamic Republic and revolution and its leadership.

Addressing enemies of the Islamic Revolution, Rafsanjani told them that the Islamic Republic is determined to continue its resistance until Muslim countries in the region attain independence, grandeur, and freedom. "When you (enemies) are ready to establish relations with the regional countries on the basis of mutual respect and justice, then a lasting peace will be restored to the region," he added. "The Iranian nation expects the Armed Forces to deal the ultimate blow on the Ba'thist troops in order to rid the region of the Iraqi-imposed war," he said.

Elsewhere in his speech, Rafsanjani said that the war machine of the deposed shah's regime was serving the interests of the superpowers and that it was difficult for the people to realize whom the Army was serving. But, he noted, during the Iraqi-imposed war, now entering its seventh year, the Iranian people have come to realize the key role the Armed Forces play in the country.

Also present at the ceremony were the Armed Forces Chief of Staff Colonel Esmail Sohrabi, Navy Commander Captain Mohammad Hoseyn Malekzadegan, head of the War Information Headquarters (WIH) Dr Kamal Kharrazi, some Majlis deputies, and a number of other military and political officials.

The British-Oman excercises were held from 22 Nov-2 Dec.

Calls Revolution 'Anti-Arrogant'

LD132007 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] During his visit to Hormozgan Province today, Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Majlis speaker and the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, addressed a gathering this afternoon at the imam's mosque in Bandar-e 'Abbas. Hashemi-Rafsanjani praised the unity of the Muslim nation in the economic, political, and military arenas and added that the Islamic Revolution had made progress in these areas.

Alluding to the recent activities by the arrogant power in the region, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: When Britain, this source of corruption, embarks on a joint maneuver near Hormozgan Province, showing its teeth and claws to the Muslim nation, our nation continues to move along its own path — powerfully and victoriously.

He then went on to explain all the plots hatched by the West and East since the inception of the Islamic Revolution, saying: Following the victory of the revolution, the arrogant in the East and West swiftly extended their recognition to us with a smiling face. During their initial approaches, they tried to infiltrate the revolution and cause it to collapse from within. The East, pinning its hope on the leftist grouplets, and the West, pinning its hope on the liberals and the nationalists, both intended to infiltrate the revolution and destroy it. Then they devised a coup plot. All these conspiracies, though, were foiled, one after the other by the bravery and resistance of the Muslim nation.

Under the circumstances, when the ordinary people were preoccupied with security in the streets and the bazaar, the agents of the arrogant powers plundered the barracks; they were thinking of staging a military coup d'etat. Later, when a significant number of votes were cast in favor of the Constitution, when the Assembly of Experts placed the foundation of our country on Islam and thus confirmed the sovereignty of Islam, all of them converged on Khuzestan, Kordestan, and elsewhere with the aim of engaging in armed clashes and setting these places ablaze. Concurrent with these events, an economic embargo was imposed on us. After seeing all these plots foiled, they then brought Iraq onto the stage and imposed this war on us. This trend continues in various forms.

Until a year ago they were saying that the war had reached a stalemate. Now, however, seeing the great victories achieved by the Islamic combatants, they no longer dare to utter such remarks. No serious analyst or politician dares to say this. Now they talk about how long the Ba'th Party of Iraq and Saddam will be able to survive. Even his best friends do not give him more than 18 months. Hashemi-Rafsanjani then continued: Many others have been defeated alongside Saddam, including the infidel body of the West and East.

Referring to the financial aid given to Iraq amounting to $90 billion by various countries that are hostile to Islam, he added: They gave Iraq everything they had. Now they are raising such an uproar over the spare parts that belong to us and which we have forcibly acquired. Why? Because such countries are our enemies; they are confronting us; Saddam is not on his own. Striking Dezful with more than 150 missiles is indicative of the abundant assistance by a great many countries to this puppet regime.

With regard to the McFarlane saga, Mr Rafsanjani said: In the guise of angels, but with an evil nature, our enemies are, in the final analysis, trying to say: Islamic Iran is involved in the U.S.-Israeli arms deal; that Islamic Iran is neither anti-United States nor anti-Israeli. We declare here that our revolution is an anti-arrogant revolution; we consider Israel to be illegitimate. We oppose terrorism but we are not prepared to brand the revolutionary nations that are trying to obtain their rights as terrorist.

While the people were chanting: "Death to America; Death to Saddam; War, war till victory," the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, citing the presence of the Mohammad Corps at the front, expressed hope for a quick victory under the leadership of the imam of the nation and the commitment of the clergy and the martyr-nurturing people, as well as for greater victories for this (?blood-stained) nation in materializing the objectives of the Islamic Revolution.

Warns of U.S. 'Apparent Kindness'

LD140814 Tehran IRNA in English 0752 GMT 14 Dec 86

[Text] Bandar-e 'Abbas, Hormozgan Prov., Dec 14. IRNA — Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani here Saturday talked about change in attitude and apparent stances of superpowers towards the Islamic Republic of Iran. Speaking to a gathering of people in a mosque here Rafsanjani, who is also special representative of Imam Khomeyni to the Supreme Defence Council, added that it seems that oppressive powers in this particular period of time have employed a new tactic in international dealings towards Iran. This is a new phenomenon and motives behind it, he continued, are somehow understandable.

Ever since the victory of the 1979 Islamic Revolution, he stressed, Iran has experienced different attitudes of superpowers and at present it is experiencing one which is brand new both to Iran and the world. More on the new tactic employed by both superpowers, he said, that they both are expressing an apparent kindness towards Iran. "However, we know that behind these smiles rest hearts filled with animosity, greed, and hostility towards the Islamic Revolution of Iran," Rafsanjani pointed out. "We must be alert and not be deceived by such gestures," he added. More on the same subject he said that Iran should not be lured and the Iranian nation should realise that superpowers will not work for the interests of Iran.

On clandestine visit of the the then U.S. National Security advisor, Robert McFarlane to Tehran and humiliating consequences of the trip for the White House officials, he said that this is a newly engineerred policy. Once they realised that all their efforts to destroy the Islamic Revolution of Iran have failed, they made this move. By doing so, he added, the U.S. politicians aim at marring the opinion of the supporters of the Islamic Republic of Iran and create an impression that Iran is purchasing arms from the U.S. and has, therefore, neglected its revolutionary principles. This plot aims at devoiding the revolution from its true nature, he emphasised.

On the Iraqi-imposed war, he said that if the Iraqi regime was not supported by other powers Iran would have simply defeated it in one of its major offensives. Therefore, he added, defeat of Saddam will mark defeat of all those who have been providing Iraq with arms. Along with Saddam, many others will too fall, he stressed.

Intelligence Minister on Mehdi Hashemi Arrest
LD141537 Tehran IRNA in English 1515 GMT 14 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 14, IRNA — Information Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Mohammadi-Reyshahri in a televised conference here Sunday elaborated on the arrest of Mehdi Hashemi, former head of the Liberation Movements Department of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) and the arrest of two Britons and one Canadian on charges of espionage.

Commenting on Mehdi Hashemi's televised confession on the nation-wide television network December 10, the information minister said one of the more serious charges against him and his group was their spreading of corrupt ideas at a theological school, about theologians and the country.

Reyshahri also said he had informed the leader of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeyni, that other charges against Mehdi Hashemi and his group were murder, Kidnapping, collaboration with the former Iranian secret police (SAVAK), underground activities, unauthorized possession of arms, and unauthorized use of classified documents, and to subversive plots. Imam Khomeyni ordered that the case against the accused be fully prosecuted, Minister Reyshahri said.

On the group's other illegal activities, the information minister said that in addition to spreading deviationist doctrines, it resorted to force whenever it felt it necessary. Reyshahri listed the murder of Ayatollah Shamsabadi before the victory of the Islamic Revolution as well as clashes the group provoked between IRGC personnel and committee men in Esfahan after the revolution as being among other criminal charges against the accused.

Reyshahri said that among devices, documents, and arms seized from Mehdi Hashemi's house were a large amount of explosives; detonators; arms; acid compounds used for making explosives; booby traps; carcinogen powder; cyanide; explosives hidden in pens, in fountain pens, and in remote control airplanes; classified documents and equipment for forging documents; and receivers for tapping local radio communications. The information minister furthermore said that forty persons were arrested in this connection and a number of others are to be arrested later. Many pamphlets signed by fictitious personalities and groups were found in the house, Reyshahri said. He added a film on the house will be screened by the television sometime in the future.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Reyshahri said that a total of 15 cases of assassination before and after the victory of the Islamic Revolution have been pin-pointed and a number of assassins arrested. However, he said, Mehdi Hashemi has only confessed to being involved in three cases. This group also plotted to assassinate Ayatollah Khademi in Esfahan but failed, he said, adding that because the group is still being interrogation of interrogated of a date for their trial could not yet be determined. [sentence as received]

In response to a reporter's question, Reyshahri categorically denied any connection between the arrest of the accused and the clandestine visit of U.S. President's former National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane to Tehran. He said the rumor was raised by Mehdi Hashemi's colleagues.

On the arrest of former Majlis Deputy Ahmad Kashani, Reyshahri said that he is being interrogated in relation with various charges and that once the interrogation is finished his case will be forwarded to the court, he said.

Replying to a question about the arrest of British national John Cooper, Reyshahri said that investigations show that he is one of Britain's biggest spies. John Cooper, who was arrested in early 1986, has lived in Iran for 25 years. During the former regime, Cooper was involved in espionage activities in some key centers such as the Prime Ministry and the Army Second Bureau (counter-intelligence) where he was working before the 1979 Islamic Revolution. There are many charges against this spy (Cooper), parts of which will be made known to the Iranian people through a broadcast of his interview in the future.

He also said that a Canadian citizen, Engineer Philip Angles was arrested on May 1st on charges of taking photographs of key military centers in Iran and smuggling classified documents out of the country. The minister also said that the documents seized from the other detained Briton, Nicolas Yanis Nicola, arrested in the southeastern region of Mirjaveh with unauthorized arms, show that the global arrogance is attempting to sow discord among Shi'ite and Sunni Muslims in this sensitive region.

Information Minister Reyshahri furthermore referred to the arrest of former Iranian Ambassador to the Soviet Union Mohammad Mokri saying that he was found guilty of having links with some East bloc countries. His case has been forwarded to the court, he said.

Imam's 'Guidance' Foiled Hashemi
LD141934 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Dec 86

[Excerpt] In a press, radio, and television conference this afternoon, Intelligence Minister Mohammad Reyshahri disclosed new information in connection with Mehdi Hashemi and his group, and also on the arrest of one Canadian and two British spies.

The information minister first explained the imam's decisive decree regarding the investigation of the case. He said: By mentioning the fact that the imam has personally, and in writing, ordered the case to be investigated, all questions will be answered. He added: The imam sensed danger for the future of the revolution from the ideological and practical corruption of this group. Some 2 years ago, he asked us to prepare a report. The aim of Mehdi Hashemi's group was to contaminate the seminaries, the clergy, and the system with their deviationist ideologies. This is the most important charge against the group. The other charges against them are murder, kidnapping, collaborating with SAVAK, secret illegal activities, possession of explosives, forging government documents, and plotting to deviate the Islamic Revolution.

The group did not stop at propaganda and at creating an adverse atmosphere to propagate their ideologies. Wherever necessary, it resorted to violence. This went on before and after the revolution. Examples of this are the murder of Shamsabadi before the revolution, and causing a clash in the Lenjan and (?Qahterijan) committee after the revolution. They gathered the Mojahedin who had repented and had established an organization, acting in secret.

Describing Mehdi Hashemi's record, he said: The first time that he was brought to our attention was 7 to 8 months ago when a number of documents were circulated against one of the Majlis deputies. We guessed that it was the work of Mehdi Hashemi's group. When we referred to the dossier of that Majlis deputy, we saw that there were a series of reports on him prepared by SAVAK, together with reports on the martyr Mohammad Montazeri [Grand Ayatollah Montazeri's late son]. When Mehdi Hashemi's dossier was looked into, it was found that the source and preparer of these reports was Mehdi Hashemi. It was also discovered that in connection with the murder of Shamsabadi, Mehdi Hashemi had informed on his friends, thinking that he would be given immunity.

Meanwhile, 2 to 3 months ago, the counter-espionage department was investigating the case against a defendant. During the investigation it was discovered that he was connected to a house in Tehran. When they searched the house, with the permission of the Prosecutor's Office, they discovered several illegal objects. It was discovered that Mehdi Hashemi was connected to that house.

At that time, I felt that the issue was political and that the Information Ministry might be smeared. I contacted the imam's office. He commanded with decisiveness that the matter should be pursued. The illegal objects in the house were confiscated. [passage omitted] The person in charge of the house, named Hasani, was arrested. Since Mehdi Hashemi was connected to the house, the imam felt that he should be arrested too.

Afterward, there was a propaganda campaign against the Information Ministry and we felt that we could not possibly continue the case. That is why I wrote to the imam. He stated: It is your religious duty to pursue the matter seriously and no one has the right to interfere, whatever the outcome. The foiling of this plot and the removal of the threat to the Islamic Republic was solely due to the decisiveness and guidance of the imam.

He added: We arrested 40 people in this connection. The interrogation has started in earnest. Several matters have been clarified, but the view is that they have not yet disclosed everything. As already ascertained, 15 cases of murder have been established before and after the revolution and a number of people accused of murder have been arrested. [passage omitted] Regarding kidnapping, there are certain indications we have not yet reached. In connection with Mehdi Hashemi's group, Majlis Deputies Omid Najafabadi and Miwa'i were also arrested. [passage omitted] Regarding the dossiers of Kashani and his colleagues, I should say that their dossiers — except for that of Kashani — have been completed, charges against them have been proven, and they will be handed over to the Judiciary. [passage omitted]

Montazeri Cable Urging Investigations

LD151122 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Dec 86

["Text" of Grand Ayatollah Montazeri's letter to Imam of the nation Khomeyni dated 15 December 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. To the threshold of the great leader of the revolution, Grand Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni. While expressing my greetings and gratitude for your sagacious stands and decisive approach vis-a-vis deviationist movements, I wish to appeal to you to issue orders for the investigations into the offenses and charges brought against Seyyed Mehdi Hashemi and his accomplices. These investigations should be carried out remorselessly and with utmost care in accordance with Islamic justice, whatever the cost, in case his or others' relationships with myself or anyone else — or for that matter, consideration for any person — might prevent investigations. The sanctity of Islam and prevention of deviations which might stain the dear Islam, the sacred revolution,and the clergy take priority over everything.

I pray to God Almighty for your health, long life, and the victory of Islamic combatants on all fronts, God's peace be upon you.

[Signed] Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri
[Date] 15 December 1986

PLO Envoy Thanks for Cease-Fire 'Assistance'

LD121324 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Dec 86

[Text] According to a report of the Central News Unit, Mr Salah al-Zawawi, Palestinian ambassador in Tehran, yesterday met with Mr Karrubi, deputy speaker of the Majlis and the imam's representative to the Martyrs Foundation. In this meeting, the Palestinian ambassador expressed his thanks and gratitude for the assistance of the Islamic Republic of Iran in establishing a cease-fire among the warring factions in Lebanon. The Palestinian ambassador also emphasized the military superiority of the Islamic Republic of Iran over the Ba'thist-Zionist forces of Iraq and the fear and anxiety prevailing in Baghdad.

Briton Arrested After Clash on Pakistan Border

LD140954 Tehran IRNA in English 0940 GMT 14 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 14, IRNA — The head of the British interest section with the Swedish Embassy here, Edward Chaplin, was summoned to the Iranian Foreign Ministry recently to answer questions concerning a Briton, Nicolas Yanis Nicola, arrested in Mirjaveh area, Iran-Pakistan border.

Nicola was arrested some time ago inside the Iranian territory while shooting at Pakistani border guards. The Iranian Gendarmerie officers arrested him after an armed clash and prevented his escape. A British passport, documents, as well as maps were discovered from him. The document seized rose suspicion that Britain is after creating tension in the region and has prepared extensive plans for clashes in the area. According to informed

sources the British official was warned about negative consequences of such moves.

It is said that the arrested Briton has entered Iran with the intention of flaring up clashes between Iranian and Pakistani border guards. Other culprits who may have entered Iran with similar intentions are being sought after. It is not yet known how Nicola has entered Iran.

An Information Minsitry official last week announced that John Roger Cooper, who was in Iran disguised as journalist is still in detention.

Larijani Departs for DRA Talks in Pakistan

LD130931 Tehran IRNA in English 0826 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 13, IRNA — The Foriegn Ministry deputy for international affairs, Mohammad Javad Larijani heading a delegation left for Islamabad, Pakistan, Saturday morning for talks on Afghanistan issue. During the trip, which is taking place at the request of the Pakistani Government, Larijani will deliver a message from President 'Ali Khamene'i to President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan.

Larijani will discuss with Pakistani officials major international, regional, the forthcoming summit of Islamic Conference Organization [words indistinct] Pakistan relations.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Iraqi Frigate Sunk 12 Dec

LD121845 Tehran IRNA in English 1756 GMT 12 Dec 86

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Dec 12, IRNA — An advanced Iraqi frigate was targeted and sunk by missiles of Iranian Muslim combatants during a heavy clash in the Persian Gulf early Friday.

Several Iraqi frigates attempted to pass through Khawr 'Abdallah waters at 2:00 hours Friday (10:30 GMT [times as received] Thursday) but were chased by the frigates of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC). One of the (?frigates was destroyed) during the clash.

A number of Iraqi frigates later tried to help the hit frigate at the mouth of Khawr 'Abdallah, but artillery fire of the Muslim combatants thwarted their attempt and the frigate sank only minutes after 5:00 hours on the same day. According to the reports reaching here, the frigate was the biggest one in the Iraqi Navy which carried scores of marines on board.

IRGC Forces, Kurds Capture Base

NC130742 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] A second IRGC report states that combatants from the Ramadan headquarters, the center for the IRGC Ground Forces' guerrilla war, and Kurdish Peshmerga Hezbollah captured a Zionist enemy base in Shirvan. The forces stationed at this base were either killed or wounded during the operation. The combatants of Islam returned safely to their bases, taking with them everything they could confiscate.

Iraqi Missile Boat Sunk 13 Dec

LD131713 Tehran IRNA in English 1604 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Dec 13, IRNA — An Iraqi missile boat was hit and sunk in Khawr 'Abdallah waterway in the northern tip of the Persian Gulf by coastal artillery fire of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) early Saturday.

One of Iraq's largest frigates was destroyed in the Khawr 'Abdallah waterway Friday when it was hit by a missile of the IRGC naval forces. The destroyed enemy boat was among a convoy of enemy frigates which tried to enter the waterway.

Iraqis Damage Power Station

LD131503 Tehran IRNA in English 1457 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 13, IRNA — An Iraqi warplane raided the outskirts of Tehran at 1310 hours local time (0940 GMT) Saturday. A power transmission station sustained damage but no casualty was reported.

Iraq's Al-Bakr Jetty Hit 14 Dec

LD141037 Tehran IRNA in English 1033 GMT 14 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 14, IRNA — A missile was fired at the military, communication, and economic installations of Al-Bakr jetty of Iraq by the naval units of the Islamic Republic's Guards Corps (IRGC) Sunday morning in retaliation for the recent Iraqi mischievious acts, said the central headquarters of the IRGC. The missile hit the jetty and the fire and smoke caused by the explosion of the jetty is still bellowing in the area.

'Another' Missile Fired at Al-Bakr

LD141658 Tehran IRNA in English 1642 GMT 14 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 14, IRNA — Another missile fired at Iraq's Al-Bakr off-shore platform Sunday, the second since morning, set ablaze a large part of the installation as well as three Iraqi gunboats berthed at the platform. The missile unit of the Islamic Revolution's Guard Corps (IRGC) which fired the missile had also targeted the platform earlier this morning destroying two Iraqi gunboats. This brings the number of enemy gunboats destroyed since morning to five.

According to the IRGC central headquarters Iraqi telecommunication and radar systems monitoring plane flights in this part of the Persian Gulf were completely demolished in the Sunday afternoon attack. A helicopter pad, several anti-aircraft guns, as well as troops concentration center of the platform were also destroyed. Huge tongues of fire could be seen leaping into the sky, said the headquarters.

Communique No 2,683

LD121716 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 12 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 12, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters heavily bombed and damaged Iraq's Al-Bakr air base north of Baghdad at 12:15 hours (8:45 hours GMT) Friday and returned safely to bases.

Joint Staff Communique No 2,683 released here Friday said that artillery fire of Iranian naval forces destroyed three Iraqi frigates in Khawr 'Abdallah Thursday with flames welling up into the sky for several hours.

Iranian artillery fire checked Iraqi armoured and infantry movements in Sumar, Mehran, Khosravi, Mandali and Naft Shahr operational regions, disrupting their activities and inflicting considerable casualties and losses on the Iraqi troops, said the communique.

Iranian patrol units dispatched to the said regions also killed or wounded a number of Iraqi soldiers and seized their weapons, the communique added.

Several Iraqi gun emplacements, heavy mortar launchers, as well as military vehicles were destroyed and a number of enemy soldiers were killed when their positions in northwestern and southern fronts especially in Talaiyeh, Kushk and Zeyd came under Iranian artillery fire, according to the communique.

Gendarmerie forces of the Islamic Republic silenced Iraqi fire in the southern fronts, disrupting enemy's engineering activities and killing or wounding a number of Ba'thist soldiers, the communique said.

The city of Abadan, Khuzestan Province, came under sporadic Iraqi fire last week and sustained some damage, said the communique.

Communique No 2,684

LD131622 Tehran IRNA in English 1611 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 13, IRNA — A number of Iranian civilians were wounded when intruding Iraqi warplanes bombed a residential area in the northwestern city of Marivan, Kordestan Province, at 12:30 hours local time (09:00 hours GMT) Saturday, said a military communique here.

Communique Number 2,684 released by the Joint Staff Command of Iran's Armed Forces said that exchange of artillery fire continued throughout the fronts Friday raging somewhat more heavily in Sumar, Naft-e Shah, and Zeyd operational theaters as a result of which Iraqi forces sustained heavy casualties and losses.

Iranian Muslim combatants reconnoitered and shelled Iraqi positions in the northwestern fronts Friday killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and disrupting their logistical operations, the communique said.

In the western fronts, the communique said, a number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and parts of enemy positions destroyed by Iranian artillery, mortar, and tank fire on Friday.

The military communique furthermore said that Iraqi troops suffered substantial casualties and several enemy tanks were destroyed in the southern fronts Friday when they were hit by Iranian artillery fire.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces opened heavy fire on Iraqi positions in the western border of Il Friday killing a number of enemy soldiers and destroying several artillery emplacements and one vehicle of theirs, according to the communique.

Iraqi troops who concentrated their engineering operations in the southern operational theater of Basra sustained considerable damage by heavy Iranian artillery fire on Friday.

Elsewhere in Zurbatiyah, Badrah, Mehran, and Qasr-e Shirin fronts, the communique said that Iraqi logistical operations were either disrupted or brought to a halt by Iranian artillery fire Friday.